

The God of Small Things

by Arundhati Roy

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Contents & Printing Notes

Unlike our most popular resources, this one's auto-selected.
Review before use, or edit the DOCX via "View / Print / Edit Web
Quiz" on the Resources menu.

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

Answer Key — Preview	2	teacher use / self-check only
Vocabulary Preview	3	

OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

Vocabulary in Context	5	
Answer Key — In Context	7	teacher use only

Pages are ordered for double-sided printing.

About the Pre-Reading Activity

Open-dictionary; ungraded or completion grade. Students preview 20 words from the upcoming reading, each in a sentence that supports understanding. They choose the best meaning from 3 choices.

About the Optional Post-Reading Quiz

Use after reading, or skip. The same words appear in excerpts from the text.

Practice words: allay, bourgeois, chameleon, cloying, coherent, communism, disdain, dowry, expel, implication (2), invoke, luminous, mortgage, pariah, resignation (2), revise, sumptuous, taut



More Vocabulary Printables

verbalworkout.com

(all resources free)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

The God of Small Things

by Arundhati Roy

#	KEY
1	C
2	A
3	A
4	A
5	C
6	B
7	A
8	B
9	C
10	B
11	C
12	B
13	C
14	B
15	A
16	B
17	C
18	C
19	B
20	B

Vocabulary Preview
The God of Small Things

by Arundhati Roy

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Read each prompt. Then choose the best meaning for the bold word.

1. It does little to **allay** Israeli fears.
A. increase
B. distract from
C. reduce
2. She told the police officer that she was trying to awaken the sensibilities of her **bourgeois** neighbors.
A. conventional
B. irresponsible
C. foolish
3. The politician is a **chameleon**, changing her positions on issues depending on the audience.
A. someone who changes opinions
B. someone who is a true believer
C. someone who is calculating
4. Her **cloying** compliments felt fake after a while.
A. overly sweet or sentimental
B. overly harsh and critical
C. too vague and confusing
5. Her argument is **coherent**.
A. unreasonable
B. fragmented
C. sensible and clear
6. Marx's writings on **communism** inspired revolutions across many countries in the 1900s.
A. free market trade
B. collective ownership
C. religious reform
7. She has nothing but **disdain** for the notion that common people can regulate their own lives better than she can.
A. lack of respect
B. humility
C. intense anger
8. **Dowries** are common in that culture.
A. extended-families living together
B. payment to a husband upon marriage
C. large families
9. If her behavior does not improve, she could face **expulsion** from school.
A. having to repeat a grade
B. serious punishment
C. being forcing to leave
10. The new policy has widespread legal and political **implications**.
A. disadvantages
B. effects
C. advantages
11. The fault clearly lies with the manufacturer, but we were **implicated** in the lawsuit because our company installed their equipment.
A. victorious
B. found guilty
C. involved

12. In the midst of the storm, the sailors began to invoke the ancient sea gods, hoping for their protection and a safe journey home.
- A. sail towards
 - B. call upon
 - C. ignore completely
13. The snow was luminous from the moonlight.
- A. soft and silent
 - B. wet and slushy
 - C. bright and glowing
14. The site has a mortgage payment calculator that calculates the loan payment based on the interest rate and length of the loan.
- A. unsecured loan
 - B. real estate loan
 - C. credit card loan
15. After betraying the team, she became a pariah in the locker room.
- A. social outcast
 - B. trusted leader
 - C. new visitor
16. She said that if I don't resign, I will be fired.
- A. do better
 - B. quit
 - C. renew an agreement
17. She was resigned to being embarrassed by her younger brother.
- A. putting a stop
 - B. resistant
 - C. with acceptance
18. Do you think the writer should revise the underlined sentence?
- A. remove
 - B. highlight
 - C. improve
19. She wore a sumptuous gown made of the finest silk and adorned with sparkling jewels.
- A. flattering
 - B. magnificent
 - C. long
20. The clothesline was taut between the two trees in the yard.
- A. shiny
 - B. tight
 - C. noisy

Vocabulary in Context

The God of Small Things

by Arundhati Roy

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 20

Read each prompt. Then choose the best meaning for the bold word.

1 He walked through the world like a **chameleon**.

A. a person who changes opinions, behavior, or appearance depending upon the circumstances

or:

a kind of lizard that changes its colors to match the colors around it

B. the act of forcing into an undesired activity or situation -- such as legally sentencing someone to punishment OR the act of finding guilty -- especially in court

C. a workplace where people do scientific or medical research, or produce drugs or chemicals (also used figuratively) OR (as an adjective) related to such a place

2 That was the first of three **expulsions**.

A. sizes or dimensions

B. outward appearances

C. acts of forcing out

3 "I'm afraid I have no option," he said, "but to ask for your **resignation**."

A. to constrain in some way -- such as tie up, require, or obligate

B. to quit a job; or a document expressing that someone is quitting a job

C. a group formed to discuss or offer insight on a particular topic

4 Mother Bear suffered those beatings with mute **resignation**.

A. the act of finding fault and telling others; or a description of faults

B. the process of thinking carefully and making a judgment about something

C. acceptance of something undesired as unavoidable

5 Her watchfulness stretched her, made her **taut** and tense.

A. relating to logical examination to improve understanding

B. pulled or drawn tight;

or: subjected to great tension

C. the state or degree of being pessimistic or disagreeable

6 She had a delicate, chiseled face, black eyebrows angled like a soaring seagull's wings, a small straight nose and **luminous**, nutbrown skin.

A. able to be persuaded to do something by tempting with pleasure or something desired

B. relating to one-sided information that is purposefully spread to influence opinions

C. glowing or shining

(also used metaphorically to describe beauty or intelligence)

7 They were separated and made into rings and pendants for unmarried daughters' **dowries**.

A. people bound to serve another without pay -- such as slaves or serfs

B. money or property given by a woman's family to the husband at marriage

C. subtle, but fatal weaknesses where otherwise there is obvious strength

8 This earned him the wrath of the Chinese **Communist** Party. They ... and accused him of "providing relief to the people and thereby blunting the People's Consciousness and diverting them from the Revolution."

A. a member of the 1960's counterculture associated with long hair, illegal drugs, casual sex, and opposition to violence.

B. someone who supports an economic system that abolishes private ownership of property with the goal of a classless society

C. someone or something that changes to fit a different situation, or that changes something to fit a different situation

9 The Naxalite movement spread across the country and struck terror in every **bourgeois** heart.

A. typical of the middle class or their values and habits

B. the act of protecting something or keeping it as it is

C. speaks with someone about something for the first time

- 10 As a special favor they were even given their own separate **Pariah** Bishop.
- A. a social outcast
 - B. friendly and fun
 - C. someone who shows
- 11 Of course it was Chacko himself who pointed this out to them and promised that as soon as things picked up, their wages would be **revised**.
- A. adapted
 - B. delayed
 - C. changed
- 12 In order to **allay** any fears his clients might have about his political leanings, he had altered his name slightly.
- A. genetic change through evolution
 - B. interact again or interest again
 - C. reduce the intensity of; or calm
- 13 The smell of **cloying** sandalwood and terry-cotton armpits (small medium large) hung in the air.
- A. overly sweet or sentimental in a way that becomes unpleasant or excessive -- on the tongue or in sentiment
 - B. roughly calculating or guessing (based on incomplete information) a value, quantity, or extent of something
 - C. treating something in an educated, intellectual way -- often excluding emotional or practical considerations
- 14 An hour after the lights went out, **disdaining** Mammachi's frightened pleading, little Ammu crept back into the house through a ventilator to rescue her new gumboots that she loved more than anything else.
- A. rejecting as not good enough (showing a lack of respect for Mammachi's pleading)
 - B. showing, demonstrating, determining, or causing acceptance
 - C. viewing in a certain way so as to form a belief or opinion
- 15 Biscuit tins with **sumptuous** pictures of English castles and ladies with bustles and ringlets.
- A. the state or degree of having the ability to change for different situations
 - B. magnificent (impressively wonderful) -- often indicating something expensive
 - C. the quality of behaving in an instinctive, uninhibited, and unplanned manner
- 16 She **invoked** the Love Laws.
- A. criticized
 - B. cited
 - C. condemned
- 17 Ammu was **incoherent** with rage and disbelief at what was happening to her—at being locked away like the family lunatic in a medieval household.
- A. related to the change of a light wave (or other wave) when it passes an opaque edge or narrow opening
 - B. related to a scale where each step is a multiple of the prior step rather than a fixed addition to it
 - C. not sensible or clear; or describing parts as not fitting together in a consistent or pleasing manner
- 18 After Paradise Pickles closed down, some rice fields were sold (along with their **mortgages**) to pay off the bank loans.
- A. moves again into position to work; or starts again
 - B. real estate loans; or pledges something for a loan
 - C. prepares food in a way that keeps it from spoiling
- 19 Comrade K. N. M. Pillai claimed that the Management had **implicated** the Paravan in a false police case because he was an active member of the Communist Party.
- A. not provided with investment funds
 - B. not interacting; or not interested
 - C. accused of being involved
- 20 If they hurt Velutha more than they intended to, it was only because any kinship, any connection between themselves and him, any **implication** that if nothing else, at least biologically he was a fellow creature—had been severed long ago.
- A. surgical interruption of nerve tracts to and from the frontal lobe of the brain
 - B. something suggested indirectly
 - C. a right that is naturally due because of human nature and the natural condition

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

The God of Small Things

by Arundhati Roy

#	KEY	WORD	NOTE
1	A	chameleon	Used 3 times in this book.
2	C	expel	Used 8 times in this book.
3	B	resignation (<i>as in: submitted her resignation</i>)	2 meanings in this book.
4	C	resignation (<i>as in: accepted it with resignation</i>)	Used 5 times in this book; 2 meanings in this book.
5	B	taut	Used 8 times in this book.
6	C	luminous	Used 8 times in this book.
7	B	dowry	Used 6 times in this book.
8	B	communism	Used 26 times in this book.
9	A	bourgeois	Used 7 times in this book.
10	A	pariah	Used 3 times in this book.
11	C	revise	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
12	C	allay	Used 2 times in this book.
13	A	cloying	Used 4 times in this book.
14	A	disdain	High-utility academic word; used 3 times in this book.
15	B	sumptuous	Used 2 times in this book.
16	B	invoke	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
17	C	coherent	High-utility academic word; used 4 times in this book.
18	B	mortgage	Used 7 times in this book.
19	C	implication (<i>as in: Her implication in the crime</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.
20	B	implication (<i>as in: the implication is that...</i>)	High-utility academic word; 2 meanings in this book.